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## ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

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### CITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, February 20, 2013, 1:30 P.M.  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
City Hall Building, 2 Civic Center Plaza

**Members Present: 6**

Joseph Nester (1:43 pm), Richard Teschner, James H. Tolbert, Katrina M. Martich, James L. Graham,  
Chairman Charlie Wakeem

**Members Absent: 3**

Bill G. Addington, Lois A. Balin

**Vacancies: 1**

**Planning Staff:**

Carlos Gallinar, Deputy Director for Planning; David Coronado, City Development Program Manager;  
Kimberly Forsyth, Lead Planner; Elizabeth Gibson, Senior Planner; Harrison Plourde, Planner;

**Others Present:**

Karla Nieman, Assistant City Attorney; Marci Tuck, Parks and Recreation; Kelvin Kroeker, Huitt-Zollars; Javier Reyes, Engineering and Construction Management; Kevin Smith, Transportation Planning; James Fisk, Transportation Planning; Antonio Bustillos, Transportation; Rudy Valdez, EPWU-PSB; Kareem Dallo, Engineering Division Manager, Land Management; Gonzalo Cedillos, EPWU-PSB; Rick Bonart, Citizen; Trish Tanner, JOBE; Risher Gilbert, Citizen; Jack Maxon; Marshall Carter-Tripp, Citizen; Tom Ingle, Citizen; Bob Halter, Citizen; Don Baumgardt, Citizen

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Chair Wakeem called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm

**2. Call to the Public** (items not listed on the agenda)

None.

**3. Discussion and Action**

a. Approval of Minutes: January 16, 2013

Chair Wakeem asked if Board Members had any additions, corrections and/or revisions for the January 16, 2013 meeting.

The following revisions were requested:

1. Page 2. Under Item 3c, separate Rick Bonart from the Open Space Advisory Board Members who spoke, and identify Mr. Bonart as "Dr. Bonart".
2. Page 1. Correct Lupe Cuellar's title to reflect that she currently serves as the Real Estate Manager and Counsel for the EPWU-PSB.
3. Page 4. Under Item 7, Change from "Board's" recommendation to "Mrs. Martich's" recommendation and add phrase "transition zones and buffers" before residential neighborhoods. Finally, add "and the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs)" to the end of the sentence.

**MOTION:**

*Motion made by Dr. Teschner seconded by Mr. Graham and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 16, 2013 AS CORRECTED.***

b. Changes to the Agenda

*None.*

4. **Presentation and Update:** Update on the status of access improvements to the Palisades, located north of the Sierra Crest and Los Compadres subdivisions at the southern end of the Franklin Mountains. Contact: Elizabeth Gibson, [gibsonek@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:gibsonek@elpasotexas.gov)

A presentation was given by Kelvin Kroeker, Huitt-Zollars; consultants to EPWU on the Palisades improvement project gave an overview of the development of the project since 2010. Presentation included the three improvement scenarios developed by the consultant, as well as the hybrid improvement scenario developed by City staff.

The following board members had questions or comments:

1. Mrs. Martich
2. Chair Wakeem
3. Dr. Teschner
4. Mr. Nester
5. Mr. Tolbert

The following members of the public had questions or comments:

6. Richer Gilbert
7. Bob Halter, Kern Place Association
8. Tom Ingle
9. Marshall Carter-Tripp
10. Dr. Rick Bonart
11. Don Baumgardt

The following responded to questions or comments:

1. Mr. Kroeker
2. Tony Bustillos, Department of Transportation
3. Javier Reyes, Engineering & Construction Management
4. Marci Tuck, Parks & Recreation
5. Gonzalo Cedillos, El Paso Water Utility

6. Karla Nieman, City Attorney's Office
7. Rudy Valdez, El Paso Water Utility
8. Elizabeth Gibson, City Development

**MOTION:** Motion made by Ms. Martich seconded by Dr. Teschner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT WHEREAS THE ENTRANCE TO THE PALISADES PARK IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO AND VISIBILITY WITHIN THE CITY OF EL PASO, THAT THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD REQUEST THAT CITY COUNCIL ASSIGN A PROJECT MANAGER WITHIN THE CITY TO ESTABLISH A CITY TEAM TO WORK WITH PSB'S ENGINEER OF RECORD TO DEVELOP A JOINT PROJECT TO SERVE THE CITY OF EL PASO.**

- 5. Discussion and Action:** Six proposed alternatives for Franklin Mountains State Park New Loop 375 entrance.

Contact: Elizabeth Gibson, [gibsonnek@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:gibsonnek@elpasotexas.gov)

Ms. Gibson gave a presentation on the six alternatives being proposed by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) for possible entrance improvements to the Franklin Mountains State Park.

The following board member(s) had questions or comments:

1. Chair Wakeem
2. Mrs. Martich
3. Mr. Tolbert
4. Mr. Nester

The following member(s) of the public had questions or comments:

5. Dr. Bonart

The following responded to questions or comments:

1. Rudy Valdez, El Paso Water Utility
2. Elizabeth Gibson, City Development

**MOTION:** Motion made by Mr. Tolbert and seconded by Dr. Teschner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ENDORSE THE ALTERNATIVE CHOSEN BY THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION FOR TXDOT'S NEW ENTRANCE INTO THE PARK, BEING ALTERNATIVE 4.**

- 6. Discussion and Action:** Working session to discuss and prioritize potential Quality of Life Bond fund Open Space acquisition opportunities.

Contact: Marci Tuck, [tuckmj@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:tuckmj@elpasotexas.gov)

Chair Wakeem introduced the item and led a discussion on potential open space acquisition opportunities that ought to be considered when prioritizing the \$5 million set aside in the 2012 Quality of Life bond for this purpose. The discussion will be continued at the following OSAB meeting.

***NO FURTHER ACTION TAKEN.***

**7. Discussion and Action:** Items for Future Agendas

Chair Wakeem and the Board identified future agenda items; they are as follows:

1. Consider replanting the Bosque Trees along the Rio Grande in the Upper Valley
2. Continue Item 7 discussion regarding Quality of Life Bond fund Open Space acquisition opportunities.

***NO FURTHER ACTION TAKEN.***

**8. Adjournment**

***MOTION:***

*Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Mr. Graham and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 4:05 P.M.***